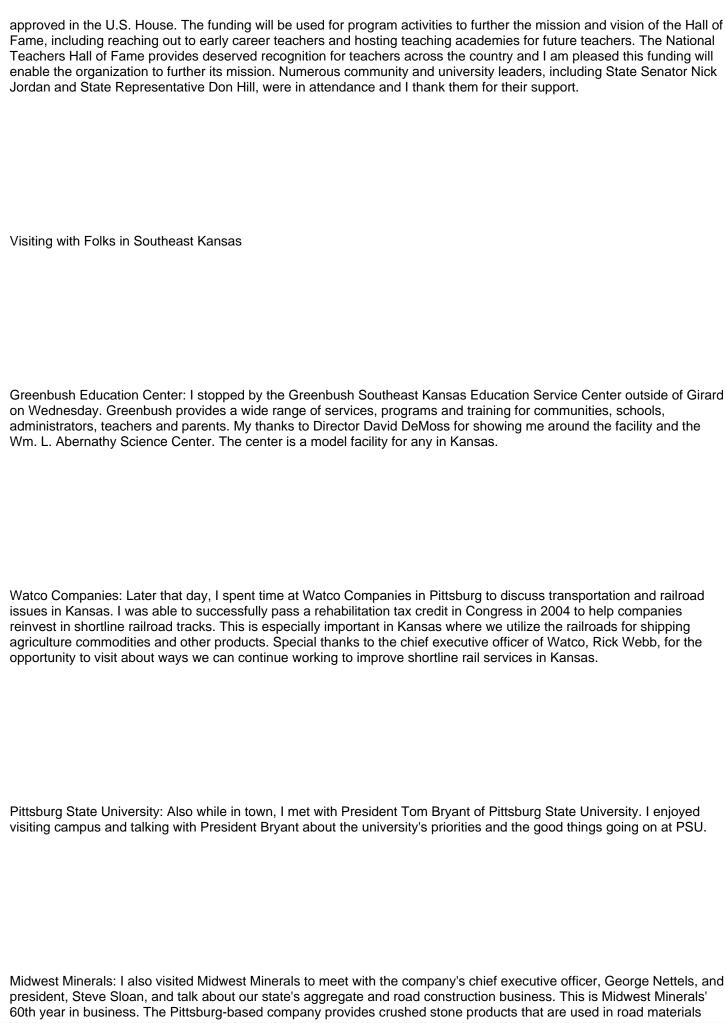
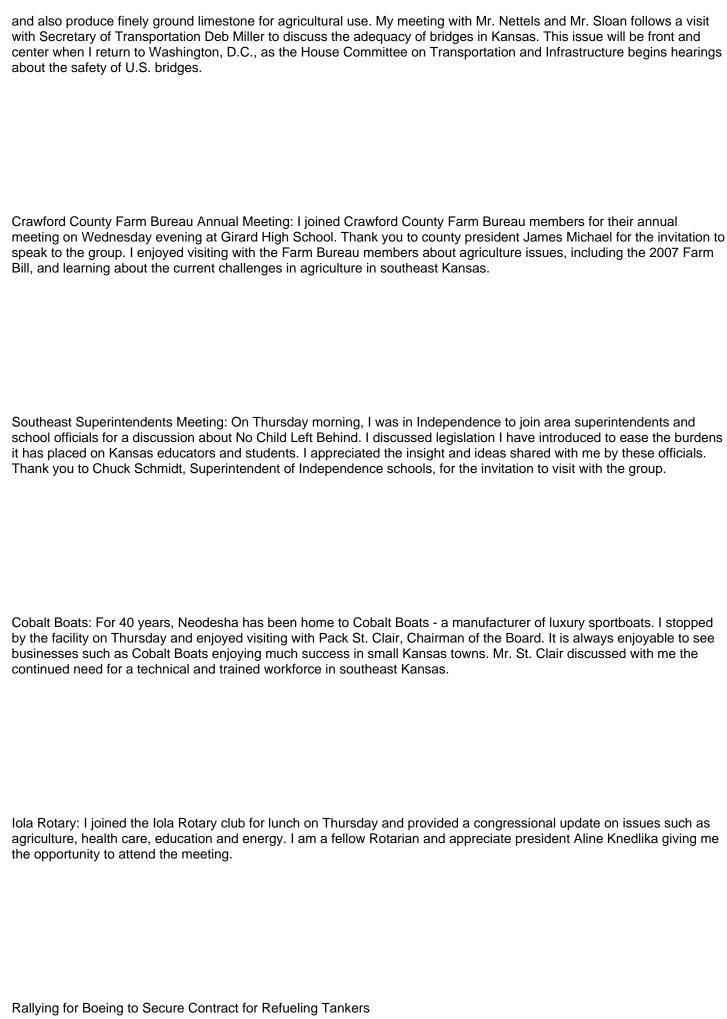
8/20/2007 This Week in Congress This Week in Congress August 20, 2007 Dear Friend, Welcome to "This Week in Congress." I hope you find this newsletter useful. Health Care Remains Front and Center The Kansas Hospital Association hosted a town hall meeting on Monday in Hays with hospital administrators, board members and physicians from across the state. I appreciated the opportunity to discuss topics like Medicare reimbursement, J-1 visa doctors, reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and the struggles many rural and small hospitals face. Thank you to Fred Lucky of KHA and Dr. John Jeter of Hays Medical Center for hosting the meeting. Health care remains a top priority of mine. I look forward to continuing to work with these professionals to ensure continued quality health care for Kansans.

Funding from USDA to Assist Greensburg in Rebuilding Process

This week, the United States Department of Agriculture released \$5.9 million to assist Greensburg in the rebuilding and recovery process. This is the first allotment of the \$40 million dollars that the Kansas delegation secured in May for recovery efforts.
Of these funds, \$1 million will be available to Greensburg and the surrounding area for recovery planning efforts. The remaining funds will be used for housing, business and community redevelopment efforts.
The residents of Kiowa County have been hard at work these past few months removing debris and laying the groundwork for putting their community back together. The release of this funding will accelerate the process and provide local leaders with additional means to move forward in the development and rebuilding of the community.
Spending Time in Emporia
Flint Hills Beef Fest: On Friday morning, I attended the Flint Hills Beef Fest at the Lyon County Fairgrounds in Emporia. I spoke to cattlemen during WIBW Radio's Ag Issues Seminar about issues affecting the beef industry, including the farm bill, EQUIP funding, risk management, export markets and Country of Origin Labeling.
National Teachers Hall of Fame: Also that morning, I joined Emporia State University President Michael Lane to announce funding for the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia. Funding for the Hall of Fame was recently





At the end of the week, I spoke at a rally in Wichita in support of the KC-767 Tanker and the employees of Boeing. The KC-767 is a refueling tanker and plays an important role in our national defense program. Over the years, Boeing has built nearly 2,000 refueling tankers and many of those are becoming obsolete. Boeing is currently competing with Airbus based in France, for a contract to construct the KC-767 Advanced Tanker for the U.S. Air Force. This contract would mean more than 3,800 jobs in Kansas and an estimated \$145 million of economic impact annually. This contract should stay in America and the tanker should be built by Kansans. I would like to thank Jim Albaugh, president and chief executive officer of Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, for the invitation to speak at the event along with Congressman Todd Tiahrt and Kansas Secretary of Commerce David Kerr.
Attending the Rooks County Free Fair
On Friday evening, I attended the Rooks County Fair in Stockton. I have been attending the fair since my childhood. Many sleepless nights are spent by parents and children alike preparing for this annual event and it was good to see their efforts pay off. My thanks and congratulations go out to all who had a hand in its success.
Visiting with Small Oil and Gas Producers from Across the State
This weekend, I attended the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association's 70th Annual Convention in Wichita. I have attended this convention nearly every year to meet with producers from our state's small oil and gas companies. I enjoyed visiting with folks from across Kansas about energy policy and small business issues, as well as the importance of the oil and gas industry to our state.

In the Office
Several Kansans stopped by my Washington, D.C., office this week for a tour of the United States Capitol, including Donna Finnell and sons, Robert and Cody, of Salina; Andrea Moran and Dustin Beam of Manhattan; Tom Siemens of Inman; and Cyndi Koehn of Hesston.
Very truly yours,
Jerry